

Message Text

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ORIGIN AID-75

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 RSC-01 IO-10 OES-05 PC-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT:OSRO EFFORT TO INSURE SAHEL SECURITY FOOD STOCKS

ROME FOR FODAG, PASS OSRO/TEVENSON; ABIDJAN FOR MOORE

1. WISH TO CONFIRM AID'S CONTINUED INTEREST IN OSRO/MDM
PROPOSED MULTI-DONOR EFFORT TO ASSIST CERTAIN SAHELIAN
GOVERNMENTS ESTABLISH CEREAL SECURITY STOCKS FOR 1975-76
CONTINGENCIES IF IT CAN BE DEMONSTRATED THAT EFFECTIVE
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MECHANISMS EXIST TO CARRY OUT SUCH OPERATIONS. DUE

SHORT PERIOD REMAINING IN WHICH TO EFFECT THIS YEAR'S SECURITY STOCK PROGRAM, AID UNABLE FURNISH QUALIFIED TDY EXPERT TO ASSIST OSRO WITH TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT WHICH WILL PRECEDE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING, HOWEVER, THAT OSRO CAN SECURE THIS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN EUROPE AND HAS ALREADY TAKEN PRELIMINARY STEPS TO FIELD SOME OF THE REQUIRED EXPERTS.

2. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE LATE-START ON 1975 SECURITY STOCK PROGRAM WILL PROBABLY PRECLUDE THE ACCUMULATION OF STOCKS IN THE QUANTITY RECOMMENDED BY THE MULTI-DONOR MISSION REPORT. AT THE SAME TIME, WE AGREE WITH OSRO THAT THERE MUST BE A CAREFUL ARTICULATION OF THOSE PRICING, PURCHASING AND MARKETING PROCEDURES WHICH HOST GOVERNMENTS INTEND TO FOLLOW--PRIOR TO PROVISION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

BY DONORS.

3. AID LOOKS FORWARD TO REVIEWING OSRO'S TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT OF FINANCIAL AND MARKETING ARRANGEMENTS WHICH ARE TO BE INITIATED BY SAHELIAN GOVERNMENTS IN PURSUIT OF THEIR SECURITY-STOCK OBJECTIVES. THIS OSRO ASSESSMENT TOGETHER WITH AN EXAMINATION OF INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENT'S RESERVE POSITION WILL ENABLE US TO GAUGE MORE ACCURATELY THE EXTENT OF OUR INTENDED PARTICIPATION. IT WOULD APPEAR ESSENTIAL THAT THE TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT BE AS OBJECTIVE AS POSSIBLE REGARDING THE REAL CAPACITY OF SAHEL GOVERNMENTS TO MOUNT THIS TYPE PROGRAM. WE WOULD HOPE THE ASSESSMENT WOULD INCLUDE A REALISTIC RECOMMENDATION ON WHAT PART OF THE MDM RECOMMENDATIONS DONORS AND SAHEL GOVERNMENTS SHOULD SEEK TO ACCOMPLISH GIVEN ORGANIZATIONAL AND TIME LIMITATIONS. IF APPROPRIATE, WE WOULD ALSO HOPE OSRO TEAM WOULD CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO MEETING NEEDS IF ORGANIZATIONAL AND TIME FACTORS SUGGEST LOCAL PROCUREMENT OF SECURITY STOCKS MAY NOT IN FACT BE FULLY FEASIBLE DURING THIS CROP YEAR.

4. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO US DURING THE OSRO TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT WILL BE DISTINCTION DRAWN BETWEEN THOSE STOCKS

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WHICH ARE TO BE ACCUMULATED SOLELY FOR SECURITY STOCKS (I.E., WILL BE DRAWN DOWN ONLY IF 1975 HARVEST PROVES POOR) AND THOSE STOCKS WHICH GOVERNMENTS MAY FEEL CONSTRAINED TO PURCHASE IN ORDER FEED NEEDY ELEMENTS OF THE POPULATION DURING 1975 RAINY SEASON. WITH RESPECT TO THESE LATTER STOCKS, IT IS HOPED THAT A REALISTIC PLAN CAN BE DEvised TO INSURE ACHIEVEMENT OF PREPOSITIONING REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO JUNE 15, 1975.

5. FINALLY, AID WISHES TO CONGRATULATE OSRO ON ITS
EFFECTIVENESS IN COORDINATING THE 1974 MULTI-DONOR
MISSION EXERCISE. KISSINGER

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